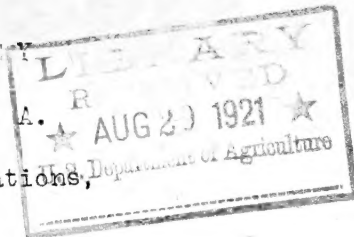


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Special Report 6

April 4, 1921

CHINCH BUG

Professor C. E. Sanborn under date of March 29 reports: "that the chinch bug situation in Oklahoma is likely to be more serious this year than for several years past. An unusually large number went safely into hibernating quarters. Conditions for hibernation have been exceedingly favorable. These bugs are beginning to infest the small grain crops at this time, although they have not much more than started to disseminate from their hibernating quarters."

GREEN BUG

Professor Sanborn under same date says: "Toxoptera" graminum Rond. occurred in Denton County, Texas perhaps earlier than December, although that is the first authentic report which I have. The infestation has disseminated northward until it is at present in the southern tier counties in eastern Kansas. The infestation is generally present throughout Oklahoma, westward as far as Jackson County on the southwest and Grant County on the Northwest. The infestation is similar to that of 1906-7, except that during the first four weeks of March the weather was exceedingly favorable for the development of its parasite, Lysiphlebus tritici Ashm. The parasite has disseminated as far northward as Kansas. An unusually large number of ladybirds especially Megilla maculata, hibernated through the winter exceptionally well in this State. These have been of great advantage in the destruction of the green bugs, although they have not been of particular importance thus far in controlling of pea aphids."

PEA APHIS

He further states in the same communication that "never before in the history of Oklahoma has the pea aphid, Macrosiphum pisi, been so destructive to alfalfa as is the case this spring. Some specimens have been prevalent during the spring of the year in times past, but it appears that the viviparous forms developed rapidly during the winter and as a result were sufficiently numerous to seriously infest all alfalfa fields, especially the low lands where they seem to have passed the winter most advantageously on account of the cover afforded by the late growing alfalfa which was killed by the frost and not removed as hay. Many fields are so badly infested that they are being destroyed. The Empusa aphidis disease has only lately began to affect them to any extent. Rains began about the 20th of this month. Until that time, it appeared to be too dry for the disease to show signs of effectiveness although a little was prevalent."

PEAR THRIPS

Professor C. R. Croshy sends in a report today made by Mr. A. Buchholz on March 26, at Germantown, Columbia County, New York, to the effect that pear thrips are "swarming in full force on the buds of pears. He further states the Kieffer Pear Buds are too far advanced for effective spraying for this insect."

